

**Housing and Third Ward Revitalization Task Force  
Minutes  
July 1, 2024  
6:30 p.m.**

The Housing and Third Ward Revitalization Task Force meeting was held virtually via Zoom on Monday, July 1, 2024. The meeting commenced at 6:39 p.m. and adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

**Voting Members Present:**

Byron Price – Chair  
Linda Peoples-Jones  
Christina Dancy  
Susan Murray  
Patricia McQueen

**Voting Members Absent:**

Craig Hughes  
Christopher Flood  
Ariel Gardner

**Staff Present:**

Brooke A. Smith, Deputy City Manager/Dir. of Economic Development

**Others attending:**

Representatives from Yard & Co. and Collabo.

**Minutes**

Motioned by Linda Peoples-Jones, seconded by Susan Murray and carried by voice vote to approve the minutes from December 4, 2023. Patricia McQueen abstained from the vote.

**Public Comments**

*Kevin Taylor, 7022 Canton Avenue*

Mr. Taylor stated that a meeting of this importance should not be virtual and he does not understand why the deliverables are late, he said it was not made public and he feels that transparency and engagement are lacking. He said the project is too important and has long range repercussions.

*Debra Shed, 961 Jeanerette Drive*

Ms. Shed said she has lived in the city since 1969 and at one time there was a program where residents could borrow money for the upkeep of their properties. She said the program does not exist anymore and that she called St. Louis County and the city is one of those that does not participate in the program. She asked why. Chair Price stated that the previous mayor and council voted to discontinue. Ms. Shed said that is a shame because she pays taxes and homeowners insurance, she is 70 years old and needs concrete work done, for which bids have come in in excess of \$10,000. She asked why the program could not be started again, stating that some residents want to keep up their properties. Chair Price suggested to Ms. Shed that she stay on for the presentation, which includes recommendations for such programs.

## **Yard & Co.**

Ed Sharrer and Patrick Brunner presented the draft plan to the task force for feedback, noting that this is the plan that will be presented during the community outreach trip scheduled for August.

Discussion was had. Task force members asked questions and provided feedback.

Ed discussed next steps, noting that this is the draft that they would like to take to the public and get their feedback. He asked that the task force members submit additional comments to Deputy City Manager Brooke Smith by Wednesday, no later than next week. He said they wanted to start planning the Community Engagement Trip to be held at Rabe Park in August.

Discussion was had. Task force members asked questions and provided feedback.

Motioned by Christina Dancy, seconded by Susan Murray and carried by voice vote to hold the Community Event on August 10<sup>th</sup> at Rabe Park.

Chair Price and Ed Sharrer also reiterated that feedback on the draft plan was due by end of day Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **Task Force Member Comments**

Patricia McQueen said by the end of everything she hopes the final plan will look as good as the West End plan. Ed stated that it would.

Susan Murray asked if photos from University City could be used instead of stock photos from around the country. Ed said if they can, they do, but if they are proposing something that is not readily seen in University City, then they will look to the City of St. Louis or the Midwest region.

## **Next Meeting - July 15, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.**

The group agreed that the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting should be cancelled due to lack of agenda items and task force members being unavailable.

## **Adjourn**

Motioned by Linda Peoples-Jones, seconded by Christina Dancy to adjourn. Carried by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.